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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hideki TATEMATSU et al.

Confirmation. No.: 5587

Appl. No. : 10/543,190

Examiner: Huan Huu Tran

Filed : July 22, 2005

Group Art Unit: 2861

For : FIXING APPARATUS

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Official Action of May 2, 2007, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on August 2, 2007, with the present response being filed by the two-month due date of July 2, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection in view of the herein-contained amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.